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pose as a hypothetical explanation of these results, the throwing of *red light* upon the retina by the light of the candle passing *through the blood vessels* of the eye-ball; this red light, in the eye most illuminated, *killing* the red-light vibrations of the retinal elements, so that only green is seen. The pale red of the image seen by the *unilluminated* eye is, with me, of doubtful distinctness.

If the facts and arguments which I have set forth in this paper impress other minds as they have done my own, especially in view of the *instantaneousness* of many of the phenomena described, and on which I have wished to lay particular emphasis, it may, at least, be concluded, that the commonly accepted theory, proposing to account for negative and complementary spectra by partial *fatigue* and diminished *sensibility* in the retina, will not suffice; and ought to be abandoned, as not at all reconcilable with several clearly demonstrable facts. Should my above attempted explanation, by *interference* (or *saturation*) of the retina with certain luminous rays, and *neutralization* of a portion of the same by equivalent rays present in reflected white light), not prove altogether satisfactory, it may be an interesting task, not without importance in physiological science, for some one well-versed in the physics of the subject to give it such farther attention as may solve the problem, in a manner which meets, as has certainly not hitherto been done, all of its conditions. I ask leave to verify some of my assertions as to the facts referred to in this paper, by repeating here a few of what appear to me the most decisive of the experiments which have been mentioned.

Stated Meeting, April 7, 1876.

Present, 19 members.

DR. LECONTE, in the Chair.

Letters of acknowledgment were received from the Batavian Society at Rotterdam (XV ii, 94); the Royal Observatory at Bruxelles (XV ii, 94); the Royal Astronomical Society (XIV); the Society of Antiquaries (95), and the Victoria Institute in London (95).

Letters of envoy were received from the Zoologico-Botanical Society at Vienna, March, 1876, and the Meteorological Office at London, dated March 20, 1876.

A letter requesting missing Nos. XIV, ii, 62, 88 was received from the R. Astronomical Society, dated February 16, 1876.

A letter was received from Mr. Cleveland Abbe, requesting missing Nos. 93, 94, dated Army Signal Office, Washington, D. C., March 20, 1876.

Donations for the Library were received from the St. Petersburg Botanical Society, Danish Academy, Königsburg Physical Society, the Societies at Ulm and Erlangen, Turin Observatory, Vaudois Society, Bordeaux Geographical Society, Paris Geographical Society, *Revue Politique*, *Nouvelles Météorologiques* and *Journal des Orientalistes*, London Astronomical Society, Meteorological Committee, and Nature, Greenwich Observatory, Boston Academy and Natural History Society, Silliman's Journal, American Chemist, Poughkeepsie Society, Buffalo Scientific Commercial, New Jersey Historical Society, Penn Monthly, Pharmaceutical Association, Medical News, and the Department of the Interior at Washington.

The Committee on Dr. Valentini's memoir reported that they desired further time to compare the photographs with the Mexican calendars in the Poinsett collection of the Society, which was granted.

The death of Theodore Cuyler, on the 5th inst., aged 55, at Philadelphia, was announced by Mr. J. S. Price, and on motion Mr. Henry M. Philips, was appointed to prepare an obituary notice of the deceased.

The death of Hakakian Bey of Cairo, a member of this Society, was reported by the Secretary.

A thesis entitled "Physiological Action of Strychnia, by Dr. Wm. H. Clapp," which had received a prize at the recent commencement of the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, was offered for publication by Dr. Carson through the Secretaries.

A thesis entitled "Sanguinaria Canadensis and its Alkaloids" by Robert Meade Smith, A. B. which had received a prize at the same commencement, was offered for publication by Dr. Francis Gurney Smith through the Secretaries.

These communications were on motion referred to a Com-

mittee composed of Dr. Henry Hartshorne, Dr. Bridges, and Dr. Horn.

Mr. E. K. Price concluded the reading of his Discourse on the Glacial Theory.

Prof. Chase communicated, with blackboard illustrations, some astronomical ratios favoring the Nebular Hypothesis.

Dr. H. Hartshorne postponed the reading of his paper "On some disputed Points in Physiological Optics with experiments" to the next meeting.

Gen. Kane made a preliminary communication of his views of the Sub-carboniferous formation and of the structure of McKean County, Pennsylvania, based upon surveys pursued by him through many years.

Pending nominations Nos. 792 to 802 were read.

A report of the Curators was read recommending that the request of Mr. Etting be granted, and on motion, the Librarian was authorized to deliver to Mr. Etting the Original Draft of the Declaration of Independence, owned by this Society, and to take his receipt therefore, and his agreement to preserve the document in a fire-proof safe, except on hours of public exhibition, and protected from the direct rays of the sun, and to return the same on or before the first of January, 1877, according to the terms of his letter of March 23d, 1876.

A report of the Library Committee was read, recommending that the request of Holman & Co., be granted, and on motion the Librarian was authorized to deliver to Mr. Holman the Elliot Bible in the Library of this Society for exhibition in the Centennial Buildings, taking his receipt therefor, and his agreement to return the same in good order on or before the first of December, 1876.

The Treasurer's Report (postponed on account of illness) was read.

The resignation of Mr. Samuel J. Reeves as a member of the Society was read, and on motion accepted.

And the meeting was adjourned.